

Sun Ship Historical Society's Newsletter:

EM.2018.02

Pub: 2018.04.07

Hi Everyone,
Hope you enjoy this latest email. As always, if you have any additional information or corrections, please let me know.

Dave Kavanagh
SSHS

1. Sun Ships Afloat:

Here is the latest update on our ships that are still afloat. Please update us if there has been a change in status.

Ships Still Afloat

1. Sun Ship Hull: 646
Name: *Adm. William M. Callaghan*
Re-Named: N/A
Delivered: 67.12.19
Gov't Number: 6801664
Type: RO/RO
Rev. Date: 2017.12.23
2. Sun Ship Hull: 664
Name: *Matsonia*
Re-Named: N/A
Delivered: 73.12.11
Gov't Number: 7334204
Type: RO/RO
Rev. Date: 2018.03.26
3. Sun Ship Hull: 669
Name: *Kenai*
Re-Named: *Seakay Spirit*
Delivered: 79.01.09³
Gov't Number: 7408093
Type: Tanker
Rev. Date: 2018.03.26
4. Sun Ship Hull: 678
Name: *Kauai*
Re-Named: N/A
Delivered: 80.08.27^{4,5}
Gov't Number:
Type: Container
Rev. Date: 2018.03.26

Note 3: Ship built in two sections-transferred; Stern: 78.02.01
(A-Slab to 4DD-A Section), Bow: 78.02.23
(B-Slab to 4DD-B Section)

Note 4: Date ship transferred from A-Slab. Christened
79.11.12

Note 5: Date from Tim Colton's Website

2. 'El Faro' (Sun Ship's ex-"Puerto Rico' Hull 670):

The story of our 'El Faro' Continues:

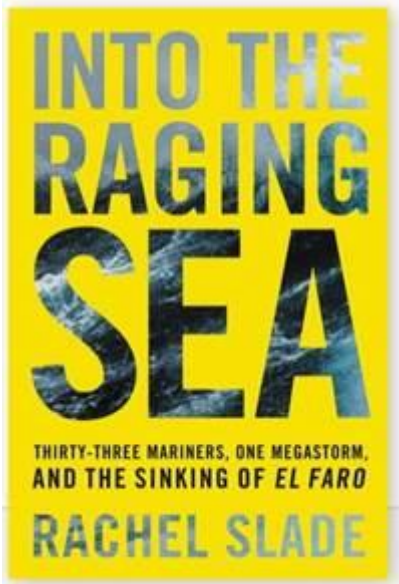
2.1: Thanks to Fred Eckley and Vic Kushto, we have the link to the Vanity Fair's International Correspondent William Langewiesche, article: "The Clock Is Ticking": Inside the Worst U.S. Maritime Disaster in Decades.
Powerful reading, in my opinion.
<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2018/04/inside-el-faro-the-worst-us-maritime-disaster-in-decades>

2.2: "Run The Storm" by George Foy
Thanks to John Curdy



2: 'Into the Raging Sea' by Rachel Slade and published by Ecco/HarperCollins is due out c: 5/1/2018

Thanks to our friends at ISM (Independence Seaport Museum); Craig Bruns-Chief Curator and Sarah Stopper-Archives and Library Assistant for forwarding the following information. Rachel Slade will be speaking at the Philadelphia Athenaeum on September 12, on her book. I will keep you informed as to the particulars as the date draws closer.



Pub: Delaware County Daily Times
Date: 4/6/2018

ASTON, PA

Marjorie V. Osifat

Marjorie V. Osifat, age 87, of Aston, PA, died Monday, April 2, 2018 at Riddle Memorial Hospital. Marjorie was born July 1, 1930 in Chester, PA. She was a graduate of Media High School. Marge was a medical secretary for 25 years until retiring in 1995.



Mrs. Osifat was a devoted member of Aston Lioness Club and the Historical Society of Aston, PA. She was an avid reader, enjoyed cooking for family and doing crossword puzzles.

Wife of the late Edward F. Buza, and Joseph Osifat, mother of the late Beryl Elaine Barlow, sister of the late Twila Sanborn and a dear friend Francis (Frankie) DelViscio.

Survivors: Daughter: Suzanne DiCarlo, Son: Brian E. Buza, Grandchildren: Corinna Fields, Heather Fields, Jackson (Damaris Rolon- Steele) Steele, Joshua (Melanie)

Ramsey, Gina M. DiCarlo, Matthew DiCarlo, Michael Buza, Devon Buza, Jason Korineck, Melanie Korineck, 6 Great-Grandchildren, Cousin: Howard "Skippy"

Stern, Niece: Sheri Dodsworth, Lifetime Friend: Betty McConnell.

Visitation: Saturday, April 7th 2018 from 10:00AM-11:15AM at the Minshall Shropshire-Bleyler Funeral Home, Ltd., Middletown (Rte. #352) & Knowlton Rds., Middletown Twp., Media, PA 19063. Aston Twp. Lioness Service will be held at 11:15AM

Funeral Service: Saturday, April 7th 2018 at 11:30 AM at the funeral home.

Interment: Private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: the Lioness Club of Aston, American Cancer Society, Williamson College of the Trade.

Condolences: www.ms-bfh.com

3. SSSHs Obituaries:

Following are two obituaries that have been recently published on our Delaware County Daily Times.

3.1: Marjorie V. Osifat: Marge was a good friend of SSSH and arranged to donate memorabilia of her husband Captain Joseph Osifat to the SSSH upon his passing on Nov. 26, 2008. Unfortunately, after reviewing the SSSH archives, we were unable to find a picture of Marge from her time and the shipyard. To the best of my memory, Marge worked in the Personnel / Industrial Relations Dept. Please forward a correction to us if necessary.

3.2: We have attached the obituary of Theresa Durant, wife of Jack Durant (Welding Engineer in 59 Dept.). We have included Theresa's obituary in case you may wish to forward your condolences to Jack at johnt1114@aol.com

FORMERLY OF EAST LANSDOWNE, PA

Theresa Durant

Pub: Delaware County Daily Times
Date: 4/6/2018

Theresa Durant (nee Oertel), 78, passed away peacefully on April 4, 2018 in Dearborn Heights, MI. Originally from East Lansdowne, PA, she attended St. Cyril's Elementary and West Philadelphia Catholic Girls' High School. Theresa raised her family in Swarthmore Wood, when her husband, John, joined Sun Ship in 1968; then moved to Dearborn, MI in 1982 upon the sale of the shipyard.



Linda Durant, and son Richard (Paula) Durant, grandchildren, Bryan, Grace and Jenna Alexander, Kathryn and Mark Helton and Stephanie Durant and sister Edna Flick and brothers Kenneth and Warren Oertel and many nieces and nephews.

Theresa loved her grandchildren more than anything in the world. She enjoyed camping, gardening and traveling. With a kind a gentle heart, Theresa was loved by all. The visitation is on Friday, April 6, 2018 5 pm - 8 pm and Saturday, April 7 at 10 am until time of service at 11 am at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Redford, MI with interment at St. Hedwig Ceme-tery in Dearborn Heights.

She is a daughter of the late Helmuth and Theresa Oertel, also preceded in death by brother George Oertel and sisters Frances Walls and Delores Powell.

She is survived by John of 56 years, daughters Carol (John) Alexander, Patricia (Antonio) Helton and

#46_004_03



4.2: USS *Repose* Hospital Ship-Plaster cast of the Ship's Crest.

The *Repose* was built at Sun Ship as the H-352 *Marine Beaver* and launched on 11/22/1944. In addition to the ship's crest, a picture of the ship is also attached.

Plaster Cast of Ship's Crest #046_003

4. SSSH Artifact/Archive Update:

Our thanks to our John Costello, VP of SSSH, for his donation to our archives of the following:

4.1: Penn Ship Corp. Seal that was 'rescued' during the Harrah's demolition 2004/2005:
#46_004_01



Postcard with the picture of the *Repose*.

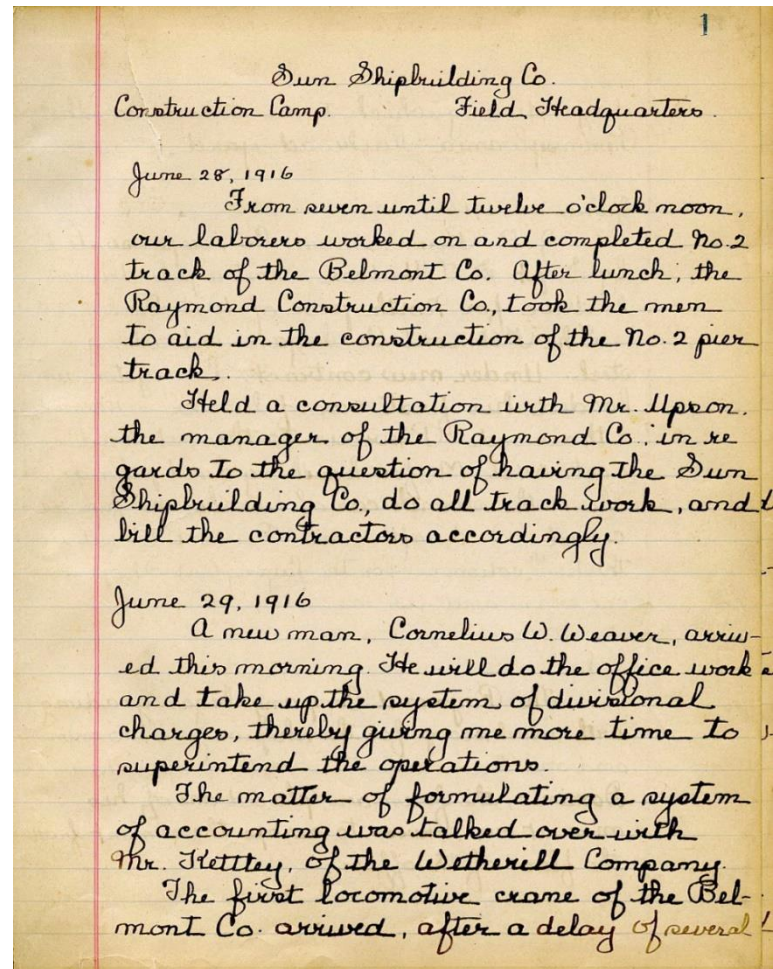
Note: This was also a donation to SSHS from John Costello.



5. Sun Ship's Earlier Times: The Sun Ship Construction Journal

Believe I have previously mentioned the handwritten "Construction Journal" by George W. McNees. He was the engineer in charge of the construction of the Yard, from the beginning, and his journal started on June 28, 1916 and continued until November 16, 1948. During our continuing research, we recently came across a picture of George and his wife Helen, the sponsor, during the launching of our S.S. *Tampico* H-398 on August 10, 1944. His handwritten journal provided an unbelievable insight into the construction of the Yard from 1916 thru the No. 1 & 2 Dry Dock expansion in 1921-22 and into the WWII era expansion, as well as the documentation of his interaction with key Sun Ship personnel including; J. Newton Pew, J. Howard Pew and John G. Pew Sr. I would like to take this opportunity to offer our grateful thanks, once again, to both Terry Potter, Director of the J. Welles Henderson Archives & Library, and Sally Brownell, the volunteer who transcribed the journal. Sadly, Sally has since passed-away but through their efforts, a transcribed copy of the journal is now in the ISM-Sun Ship Archives for future historians to review.-dmk (See SSHS Archives #30_01)

5.1: Page 1 of the 'Construction Journal' #30_01



5.2: George and Helen McNees at launching of the *Tampico* H-398. His title at this time was, 'Head of Yard General', which placed him in charge of all yard construction during the WWII expansions.
#706_4409_008c



Please stop by our website at www.sunship.org

Regards,

Dave Kavanagh
Sun Ship Historical Society